General Hunting Rules

Wounding and Retrieving

No person shall wound or kill any upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it and reduce it to possession. Every upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer wounded by hunting and reduced to possession shall be killed immediately and become a part of the daily bag limit.

It Is Unlawful

- To hunt on cultivated or posted private lands without permission. See Trespass Law, page 43.
- To hunt or take any wildlife without a valid hunting license on your person.
- To take any game without the proper tag or permit.
- To shoot from or across the traveled portion, shoulders, or embankments of any road maintained by any government entity.
- To hunt game from any motorized vehicle, except for holders of a valid handicapped persons Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit.
- To operate any vehicle in an area designated as closed for that specific vehicle type.
- To operate a motor vehicle in violation of area, trail or road restriction.
- To use aircraft, including unmanned aircraft, to locate game and communicate location to persons on the ground, or to use any helicopter to transport hunters, gear or game except at established landing fields.
- Make use of any aircraft, including unmanned aircraft, to locate any big game animals for purpose of hunting those animals during the same calendar day those animals were located from the air.
- For all hunters, anglers and trappers, with or without game or fish, to not stop and report at any check station established to inspect licenses and fish and game – even if hunting, fishing or trapping was done outside the state of Idaho.
- To fail to produce wildlife in possession for inspection upon request of a conservation officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Department of Fish and Game laws.
- To hunt any animal or bird by aid of a spotlight, flashlight or artificial light of any kind; except unprotected or predatory animals on private land after obtaining written permission, and on public lands after obtaining the required permit from a Fish and Game regional office. It is lawful to hunt raccoons on public lands without a permit if such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances, or regulations.

- To allow or cause the waste of edible portions of any game animal, except for mountain lion, black bear or gray wolf. Edible portions are defined as:
 - Game birds Breasts;
 - Upland game animals Hind legs, front legs and loins of rabbits and hares;
 - Big game animals Hind quarters, front quarters, loins and tenderloins;
 - Game fish Fillets of fish, hind legs of bullfrogs and tails of crayfish;
- To transfer any license, tag, or permit or use another's license, tag, or permit.
- To party hunt, or help fill another hunter's bag.
- To take more animals than the hunter has legal tags for that species.
- To destroy or disturb traps or remove any wildlife from traps belonging to others.
- To enter Idaho with livestock without a health certificate for transport and a brand inspection slip.
- To intentionally interfere with the lawful taking of wildlife or lawful predator control by another.
- To hunt any game animal/bird by means of baiting with grain, salt in any form (liquid or solid), or any other substance (not to include liquid scents) to constitute an attraction or enticement, with the exception of applicable rules for the black bear baiting permit.
- To possess or transport game or parts (including processed meat) taken by another person without having a proxy statement, page 40.

Identification of Species in Possession, Transportation or Shipment

Any person in possession of or transporting harvested game that has been lawfully taken and reduced to possession must comply with the following requirements:

No person shall transport for another, receive for cleaning, processing, or storage, or accept as a gift any harvested game unless it is accompanied by a written "proxy" statement signed by the taker. A blank proxy statement appears in this brochure on page 40; it must be filled out completely for the appropriate species to be valid. Migratory game birds accepted as a gift shall apply to the recipient's possession limit. Migratory game birds being temporarily possessed or transported for the taker, as provided above, shall not apply to the non-taker's possession limit.

- Any time big game, turkeys, or sandhill cranes are transported, a validated tag must be attached to the largest portion of the carcass. In addition, the taker must be in possession of the appropriate hunting license and permits. Any person transporting big game for another (including big game animal parts, processed meat, and/or gifts of big game that do not exceed the lawful possession limit) must be in possession of any applicable permits and all information from the proxy statement, see page 40. The validated tag must remain attached to the carcass until the meat is processed. The validated tag must accompany the meat to the place of final storage or until final consumption.
- One fully-feathered wing or head must be left naturally attached to any dressed game bird (except turkey) and Eurasian collared doves; the beard or leg must be left naturally attached to turkey carcasses. Naturally-attached parts are needed so enforcement and management personnel are able to identify the species and sex of the birds in possession or being transported.
- Any package or container in which game species are being transported by common carrier must have the name, address, and hunting license number of the shipper, the name and address of the consignee, and an accurate statement of the species and number of each contained in the package or container clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside.
- No person shall give another any game species to possess or transport unless they also give the transporter a written proxy statement, see page 40.
- When a wild turkey is accompanied by a written statement as provided above and is being transported for another, it shall not be counted in the possession limit of the person transporting the wild turkey.

Bird Dog Training Permits

- A permit is required to train bird dogs on private/public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when the release of artificially propagated upland game birds or waterfowl will be part of the training process. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.
- A permit is required to sponsor/conduct any organized competitive dog trials/tests on private or public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when artificially propagated game birds are used. The permit is required even if live birds are not used or released during the trial on Wildlife Management Area lands. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.

Areas Closed to Hunting of Game Birds

Hunting, killing or molesting of any game bird is prohibited in the following areas:

• Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area (refuge) from September 15 through the end of waterfowl hunting

- season in the following area: Beginning at the bridge across Sand Hollow Creek on Old Fort Boise Road about 100 yards west of the WMA headquarters, then north along the east bank of Sand Hollow Creek to its confluence with the Snake River, then north and northeast downstream along the east bank of the Snake River to the WMA boundary fence, then south and southeast along the WMA boundary fence to Old Fort Boise Road, then west on Old Fort Boise Road to the point of beginning.
- Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.
 All lands contained within Craters of the Moon
 National Monument prior to the expansion of the park
 in November 2000 are closed to hunting. Contact the
 National Park Service (208-527-1300 or www.nps.
 gov/crmo) for a map indicating these boundaries. All
 other public lands within Craters of the Moon National
 Monument and Preserve are open to hunting.
- Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Twin Falls County, *except* that portion within an area 50 feet in elevation above the high water level of the Snake River. The upslope area is marked by yellow fiberglass markers, and hunting is permitted down slope to the river.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho, and Nez Perce counties.
- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue, and the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area in Canyon County on Sundays through Wednesdays from September 15 through the end of the waterfowl hunting season in the area south of Highway 18 and west of Pebble Lane (Roswell Marsh Segment).
- Lewiston Nature Preserve in Nez Perce County.
- Myrtle Creek Reserve in Boundary County.
- Springfield Bird Reserve in Bingham County.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property line that encompasses the lake.
- On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State Wildlife Management Areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.

Areas Closed to Hunting of Upland Game Animals

Hunting, killing, or molesting upland game animals is prohibited in the following areas:

- Craters of the Moon National Monument. See page 42 for a full description.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho and Nez Perce counties.
- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue and the New York Canal from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property that encompasses the lake.
- On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State wildlife management areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which bird hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.

Trespass Law

No person may enter private land to hunt, fish, trap, or retrieve game without permission if the land is:

- Cultivated
- OR posted with "No Trespassing" or similar signage every 660 feet (1/8th miles) or at reasonable access points.
- OR Posted with 100 square inches of high visibility orange paint every 660 feet or all reasonable access points.
- OR Posted with high visibility orange paint on the top 18-inches of a metal fence post every 660 feet or all reasonable access points.
- OR Posted with signs where a public road enters and leaves property through or along which the public has a right-of-way.

It is illegal for anyone to post public land that is not held under an exclusive control lease. Conviction of trespass on posted private property carries a mandatory one-year revocation of hunting/fishing/trapping licenses. Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes.

State Park Rules

Certain types of hunting are allowed on some state parks. Please contact the state park you are interested in visiting to determine hunting opportunity.

Protection of Wildlife: All molesting, injuring or killing of any wild creature is strictly prohibited, except as provided

by action of the Idaho State Parks and Recreation Board and as established in board policy. Persons in possession of wildlife, which may be legally taken within state park boundaries. must comply with Idaho Department of Fish and Game rules.

Personal Safety: No person may purposefully or negligently endanger the life of any person or creature within any land administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. No person may discharge firearms or any other projectile firing devices within any lands administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation, except in the lawful defense of person, persons or property or in the course of lawful hunting, or for exhibition or at designated ranges as authorized by the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Indian-owned Lands and National Wildlife Refuges

Warning: Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing or trapping purposes (18 U.S. 1165).

Trapping on National Wildlife Refuges is under federal regulations by permit only, and steel shot may be required on certain refuges for some upland game species. Check with federal refuge manager.

Hunting of Predatory & Unprotected Animals

Some animals are classified as "predators" or as "unprotected" and can be hunted and taken all year. Animals classified as predators in Idaho include coyotes, raccoons, jackrabbits, skunks, weasels, and starling. The most frequently hunted unprotected animals include marmots, fox squirrels, porcupines and Columbian ground squirrels, English sparrows, Eurasian-collared doves, and feral pigeons. These species may be taken in any amounts and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting, trapping or combination hunting license, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances or regulations.

Protected Nongame Wildlife, Species of Special Concern, Threatened or Endangered Species, Protected Birds

Special classifications for some animals extend extra protection to those species. These animals cannot be hunted, taken or possessed. Threatened or endangered wildlife include caribou, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, and Northern Idaho ground squirrel. Protected nongame wildlife include red (pine) squirrel, wolverine, chipmunks, rock squirrel, Wyoming ground squirrel (nevadensis subspecies only), golden-mantled ground squirrel, Merriam's ground squirrel, Piute ground squirrel, pika, kit fox, northern flying squirrel, bats, Southern Idaho ground squirrel and migratory song birds. See page 39 for ground squirrel information.

All birds in Idaho are protected except starlings, Eurasian-collared doves, English sparrows and feral pigeons. Protected nongame birds cannot be hunted, taken or possessed (including parts of birds, even if found dead). All hawks, owls, eagle and vultures are protected. Game birds may be taken only in accordance with established hunting rules.

For a pamphlet on collecting, possessing, and importing amphibians and reptiles contact a Fish and Game office or visit idfg.idaho.gov.

Hunters: Watch For Traps Set For Furbearers!

- Ask landowners if there are traps set on their land and avoid them.
- If a hunting dog is accidentally caught in a trap, it should be removed with caution. Although usually not seriously harmed, a dog in a trap will be frightened and may bite. As gently as possible, cover the dog's head with a jacket, etc., and carefully remove the trap.

Tips on Trap Avoidance

See our Videos:

How To Recognize and Avoid Wildlife Traps while Walking your Dog

How To Release Your Dog From A Trap

And our Brochure:

How to Release your Pet from a Trap

idfg.idaho.gov



2016 & 2017 Upland Game, Furbearer Licenses and Permits

As of January 29, 2016, fees may change without notice. For all resident and nonresident license, tag and permit fees, see pages 48-49.

No person shall hunt, trap, or fish for or take any wild animal, bird or fish of this state or practice falconry without first having procured a license.

Before purchasing a hunting license, all applicants born on or after Jan. 1, 1975 must complete a state approved hunter education course. See page 46.

The \$7.25 resident Junior Hunting license (for ages 10-17) may be issued to qualified persons who are 9 years of age to allow them to apply for controlled hunts, however, the youth may not hunt until they are 10 years of age. Youth with a Junior Hunting License who are younger than 12 may hunt big game and must be accompanied in the field by an adult licensed to hunt in Idaho. This license is valid for game animals (ages 10-17), game birds, unprotected and predatory wildlife. A Nonresident Junior Mentored Hunting license is \$31.75.

Nonresidents may buy a three-day nonresident small game hunting license for \$35.50. The license is valid for upland game birds, turkey, migratory game birds, upland game animals, huntable furbearing animals and unprotected and predatory wildlife for three consecutive days. Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season.

License and Permit Requirements by Species

To hunt sage-grouse and/or sharp-tailed grouse, hunters must purchase a hunting license and a \$4.75 permit.

A hunting license is required to hunt pheasants.

Hunting for pheasants on the nine WMAs (C.J. Strike, Cartier Slough, Fort Boise, Market Lake, Montour, Mud Lake, Niagara Springs, Payette River, Sterling) hunters must purchase a hunting license and a \$23.75 WMA permit for residents, or \$51.75 for nonresidents. The permit is required for hunters aged 17 and older. Permits are valid for six pheasants and multiple permits may be purchased.

Other Species

Hunters who pursue quail, partridge, forest grouse, rabbit, hare, crows, predators and unprotected species must purchase a hunting license. No special permits are required. Pygmy rabbit season is closed. Mountain quail and Gambel's quail seasons are closed.

A hunting license is required to practice falconry in Idaho. Falconers also must obtain proper state and federal permits for training and possessing a bird of prey. Contact the nearest Idaho Department of Fish and Game regional office for more information.

Nonresident falconers must have a valid Idaho hunting license, all necessary validation and a valid falconry permit from their state of residence.

Migratory Game Birds

To pursue doves, ducks, geese, coots, sandhill cranes or Wilson's snipe, hunters must purchase a hunting license and Migratory Bird (HIP) permit. The validation is \$1.75 for residents and \$4.75 for nonresidents. Hunters 16 years or older also need a federal duck stamp for ducks, geese and coots.

Trapping License

No license is required for resident children under the age of 14 years to trap muskrats from irrigation ditches or property on which they live during the open season. A license is not required for resident children under the age of 12 years to hunt, take or kill predatory, unprotected birds and animals by means other than with firearms.

Trapping Reciprocal Agreement

Attention Nonresident Trappers: A nonresident Idaho trapping license allows you to trap only those species that your home resident state allows nonresidents to trap and that there is an open season for those species in Idaho. Quotas apply. For states with multiple quotas, the most restrictive trapping quota will apply in Idaho. Nonresidents are advised to review their home state's nonresident trapping rules.